

MISS LA RUE'S WOES
SOUND LIKE A BOOK

Woman Had Read Novel
Whose Theme Is Startlingly
Similar to Her Story.

SERIES OF PARALLELS

Wicked Men, Deceived Women,
Stuffy Cellars and Other
Earmarks Appear.

When Miss Consuelo La Rue, having jumped out of a window of her apartment at 215 West Eighty-fourth street on June 18, related her experiences to the authorities, experiences which involved abduction, the drugging of wine, white slavery and murder, one of the listening officials declared it to be the most remarkable story he had ever heard.

Up to that time, however, this official had never read "The Invidious Dr. Fu-Manchu," by Sax Rohmer, a novel of the word—published in 1913. But Miss La Rue had. Subsequently others interested in the case of the girl, who is still in Polytechnic Hospital recovering from her injuries, also have read the work, and they have discovered no fewer than twenty-two parallels which closely parallel Miss La Rue's experiences.

This circumstance in itself may be regarded as a remarkable coincidence. More remarkable still is the fact that Miss La Rue not only has read but has owned the book. So striking is the resemblance between many of the situations that one is almost tempted to accuse the author of plagiarism but for his known high standing and the incidental fact that he wrote his story three years before Miss La Rue related hers.

Investigation Slows Down.

So much impressed are the Police Department and the District Attorney's office by the coincidence that they have abandoned their investigation of some of the more sensational features of the young woman's statement.

Miss La Rue's leap from the window was made, it will be recalled, because of an alleged threat to murder her in revenge for information she was said to have given leading to the discovery of the body of Alfred Cocchi's cellar. But for an overflow of big stories at that particular time it might have held the first page for several days. As it was it started an anti-white slave agitation which promised to shake the town.

Shortly before Miss La Rue left an unopened bottle and rented the room from which she leaped into public notice she lent her copy of "The Invidious Dr. Fu-Manchu" to a friend, with injunctions to mail it after reading to somebody in Havana. While yet a few hours of detectives, some public, some private, some men, one of two women, investigating the celebrated case of Consuelo La Rue, the book was being having been uncalled for at the Havana address. Then some one who had heard of the girl's "experiences" read it and wondered.

The heroine of the novel, the unfortunate victim of the blandishments of the Invidious Dr. Fu-Manchu, Karamaneh, was beautiful, like Miss La Rue, according to description, and, as she resembled her in appearance, indeed, that she might have been a sister but for the fact that she was only a character in a story book.

Slaves of Two Kinds.

Against her wishes she became the slave of the Invidious Dr. Fu-Manchu. Consuelo became the unwilling slave of a mysterious count, also Invidious. Neither woman was actually held imprisoned, respectively, but the count, of each cast over his victim a spell which she just couldn't shake off. Once or twice the spell in Miss La Rue's case took the form of a potent drug and under its influence she suffered herself to be taken from New York to Chicago in the count's company.

It was a fellow who Dr. Fu-Manchu used, too, to keep his victims from seeing death. He held Karamaneh by threatening harm to Asis. Fu-Manchu, it appears, numbered his subjects by the whole number. He was the Simon Legree of China. To attempt any further comparison of these two Invidious slave drivers would be futile. But anyone who has read the book recalled that when Miss La Rue was asked why she didn't attempt an escape in the course of the Chicago trial, she said the count held the power of life and death over one near and dear to her and she would never consent to sacrifice this person in order to gain her own liberty.

The captives to which Miss La Rue was taken have counterparts in more elaborately furnished basements to which Dr. Fu took his victims. But the acquaintance. In each case the body of a slain girl was exhibited as a warning. Even Miss La Rue's window leap has a startling resemblance to one of the most startling scenes in the novel.

The Fatal Car Appears.

Miss La Rue's story had a habit of attaching itself to the lives of persons whom they regarded as having outlived their usefulness. Miss La Rue, after the mysterious attack in her apartment, complained of fainting spells, and on this one point coincidence is lacking. Her bruises came from fingers, the surgeon said.

Miss La Rue told her questioners of the operation of "vast international interests." Dr. Fu expelled the Mongolian domination of the world. The girl in real life said much about international persons in Argentina. Manchu, as has been said and as his name indicates, was a Chinese.

One of Miss La Rue's most startling experiences, it will be recalled, occurred one night when she had dined with the Count and other supposed friends in a restaurant in East Houston street. Footsteps sounded on the flagged passage. A blade of light crept across the floor toward us. My brain was growing clearer. The shadow had a damp, earthy smell. It was slimy—some one some cellar. A door was thrown open and a man entered carrying a lantern. His light showed the dungeon to be some fifteen feet square.

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Kristianafjord Survivors Land.

MAJLAG, July 23.—Passengers and crew of the Norwegian-American steamship Kristianafjord, wrecked on July 13 on the Newfoundland coast, arrived here today. The Kristianafjord was proceeding to Norway when she grounded in a fog seven miles west of Cape Race.

SPITE FENCE UPHELD
BY JERSEY COURTS

Owner Wins Despite \$75,000
Fight Against Him.

ATLANTIC CITY, July 23.—The right of Archibald S. Lambert to do what he pleases with his own property and erect whatever building he thinks best ought to have been upheld by the highest courts of the State. Mr. Lambert may go right ahead and repair his spite fence and repeat the strip of beach which he owns at Vassar Square, Chelsea, between the boardwalk and the \$100,000 villa owned by Edwin S. Vane, a former Congressman.

Twenty-five years ago Lambert got possession of the strip after residents of the place, led by Vane, had made a determined fight against him. They succeeded in having him barred from access to his property except through land belonging to others. To get even Lambert built a high spite fence which shut off the view of the ocean from Vane's villa, and then built a bath house which threw open free to the public, thus attacking an element which greatly disturbed the sensitive souls of the exclusive residents of Vassar Square. To harass still more the feelings of the residents, Lambert painted a huge sign telling the world that Vane's villa was estimated that \$75,000 has been spent in the effort to get rid of Lambert and his spite fence.

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\$1,385,024,466 PAID
IN ON LIBERTY LOAN

Nearly a Billion Handed Over
to Government Before
It Was Due.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—More than 60 per cent of the \$2,000,000,000 Liberty Loan already has been paid into the Treasury. To-day's Treasury statement, the first issued in twenty-four days, shows payments June 30 on the Liberty Loan account of \$1,385,024,466.

Only 20 per cent of the loan, or \$400,000,000, was due June 30, the two payments of 2 and 18 per cent, respectively being due June 15 and June 28. The amount thus voluntarily paid by subscribers ahead of time totaled only \$15,000,000 under a round billion dollars.

Out of the proceeds and other revenues the Government on June 30 had redeemed Treasury certificates of indebtedness amounting to \$254,000,000. The balance was deposited in Federal Reserve and national State banks and in accordance with Secretary McAdoo's plan of distributing the deposits among as many institutions as possible. A total of \$56,682,318 was deposited in banks other than Federal Reserve banks on June 30.

Notwithstanding the enormous withdrawals to meet payments on the loan—three times the sum due—the redepositing of the funds among banking institutions prevented even a ripple of disturbance in the money markets.

Record Cash in Treasury.

The heavy payments ran up the Government's balance of cash and hand money to the record figure of \$1,064,088,250. This was after the Treasury Department had redeemed certificates of indebtedness amounting to \$254,000,000. The last day of the fiscal year ended, the total being more than \$2,000,000,000.

Hundreds of thousands who bought so-called baby bonds, those of \$50 and \$100 denomination, availed themselves of the privilege of paying in full at once. Purchasers of large allotments were required to give two weeks notice of their intention to pay in excess of the Government's installment programme. In hundreds of instances, apparently, purchasers of large allotments also paid in full for their bonds.

Because of the immense amount of clerical labor involved in tabulating payments and checking reserve bank returns the Treasury statement for June 30 was delayed a record time this year. Usually it comes out two or three days after the fiscal year ends. Even today's figures, a footnote states, are subject to revision.

Other New Marks Are Made.

In other respects than those affecting the loan the statement of the Government's financial activities for the fiscal year is a record breaker. Total receipts from all sources reached the new high level of \$3,478,159,935, which was approximately \$2,300,000,000 more from the loan and the sale of certificates of indebtedness. Ordinary revenue receipts increased nearly \$350,000,000 over the preceding fiscal year, reaching a total of \$1,123,576,229. These were apportioned as follows:

Panama Canal tolls for the year showed a total of \$5,872,244, as compared with \$2,554,576 the preceding year, an increase of approximately 180 per cent.

In preparation for a second Liberty Loan campaign in the fall the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee announced today a partial reorganization, and plans "to bring home to every woman" the financial advantages and patriotic duty of investment in Government bonds.

Mrs. Logan's Slade of New York has been appointed chairman for the Second Federal Reserve district, replacing Miss Virginia Furman, and Mrs. Fred A. Font of Richmond, Va., will replace Mrs. John Skelton Williams, resigned as chairman for the Fifth Reserve district.

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COCCHI SAYS POLICE
DID NOT SPARE HIM

Acquits Motorcycle Men Who
Haunted Scene of Ruth
Cruger's Murder.

GRAND JURY HEARS WIFE

Is Questioned Regarding Con-
versations With Policemen
After the Crime.

BOLOGNA, July 23.—Alfredo Cocchi, the murderer of Ruth Cruger, gave a clean bill of health to the New York police in a statement made to-day to Judge Zuocconi, Italian magistrate. The statement was made in the course of a cross-examination designed to throw light on Cocchi's experiences with motorcycle policemen.

Cocchi admitted that his business as bicycle repairer brought him into the acquaintance of a number of policemen, including William H. Eynon, John L. Oehenheit, Thomas M. Kerrigan, Willard A. Helms and James P. Hagerty, but he was sure, he said, that none of those would have spared him if they had suspected him of a crime.

When he attacked Ruth Cruger, he said, and she struggled with him, he realized he would be lost if she denounced him to the police. The idea terrified him and, so he testified, he lost his head. He struck her, but his recollection was that he used no weapon but only his bare hand.

In the confession made from Bologna a few weeks ago Cocchi said that after striking Miss Cruger with his fist he fractured her skull with a stick of wood.

MRS. COCCHI TESTIFIES

Is Questioned About Assurance
From the Police.

Mrs. Alfredo Cocchi, the slayer's wife, was before the Grand Jury during almost its entire session yesterday. It is believed she told of alleged conversations with policemen after her husband's disappearance. Previously she had told of seeing two detectives if Cocchi was suspected of killing Ruth Cruger.

"Oh, forget it," she said one of the detectives replied. "Ruth Cruger is not dead. You follow her mother when she leaves home in an automobile every morning and you'll find out where the girl is. Her mother visits her every day."

Mrs. Cocchi's testimony will be continued to-day. Before she was placed on the stand yesterday Patrolman Ochsenheit and Capt. Patrick G. Gargan of the West 125th street station were questioned. Mrs. Marie Patterson, a friend of Mrs. Cocchi's, and Detective Dillon of the Fourth branch bureau, also were questioned.

Leonard M. Wallstein, Commissioner of Accounts, returned to the city yesterday and said he had no intention of resuming his inquiry into administrative methods of the Police Department until the end of the Grand Jury investigation.

"I terminated my inquiry immediately when Gov. Whitman directed the District Attorney to investigate the case and shall not resume until the District Attorney has finished," he said.

The report that Mr. Wallstein intended to resume at once had emanated from Mr. Swann's office.

After having conferred yesterday with Police Commissioner Wood, Capt. McNally of the Hunter's Point precinct and Capt. Keith of the Astoria precinct assigned Patrolmen James McGill and William McHugh, respectively, to obtain evidence. Boyle became friendly with the suspected men, and when he represented himself as a friend of fruit stand vendors and others who might be willing to give tips for permits and offered to act as a "fixer" these particular employees of the License Bureau felt "in one of two cases money was paid."

In their inquiry my investigators were told to go to the office of the License Bureau that other employees were doing. I sent William H. Boyle, then a private detective, more recently one of the valuable investigators, to obtain evidence. Boyle became friendly with the suspected men, and when he represented himself as a friend of fruit stand vendors and others who might be willing to give tips for permits and offered to act as a "fixer" these particular employees of the License Bureau felt "in one of two cases money was paid."

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WALLSTEIN AIDS
ACCUSED OF PLOT

Lawyer Says They Induced
City Employees to Com-
mit Crimes.

COMMISSIONER DENIES IT

Declares His Men Acted to
Stop License Bureau Graft-
ing—Assails Swann.

Charges that investigators from the office of the Commissioner of Accounts, Leonard M. Wallstein, maintained a furnished apartment at which orgies were held and in which city employees were induced to commit crimes, were made by Frank Aronow, an attorney, before Judge McIntyre in General Sessions yesterday.

Subsequently, Mr. Wallstein not only denied the charges categorically, but declared the District Attorney had asked no one in his office to give any evidence in the grand larceny case against Charles M. Strauss, a former clerk in the Bureau of Licenses, although his investigators had unearthed the information which brought about Strauss' indictment. It was in arguing for the dismissal of this indictment that Aronow, counsel for the accused man, made the accusation. Judge McIntyre reserved decision.

Commissioner Wallstein declared further that the District Attorney had failed to bring the present charges against Strauss to the attention of the Grand Jury until Chief Magistrate McAdoo had declared it to be a Grand Jury case. He said:

"Strauss was one of six or seven employees of the Department of Licenses against whom indictments were recommended by my office as a result of an investigation made at the License Commissioner's request.

"Three of the bureau employees were accused of committing crimes in Brooklyn. On the strength of our report the Kings county District Attorney procured the indictment of two men, and one of them, William A. Russell, chief inspector of licenses, attached to the Brooklyn office, was found guilty.

"At the same time that we gave information to the District Attorney of the Kings county we furnished information to the New York county District Attorney also, some of the alleged crimes having been committed here. The District Attorney presented one case against Strauss, involving him in the acceptance of fees illegally, before the Grand Jury, but took no action on information that Strauss aided and abetted in the picking of pockets of men formed in line in the license offices. Neither did he present the charges against three or four other men named in our report.

"Months passed, and finally I filed complaints with Chief Magistrate McAdoo. One of the men had disappeared meanwhile, but we presented the evidence against all the others and Magistrate McAdoo held them for the Grand Jury. Among these was Strauss, who was then indicted on the second charge. "Neither the District Attorney nor anybody else has asked this office or any one in it to present any facts in the case, either by affidavit or otherwise, although we would be glad to do so. Fifteen men from this office made the investigation and the evidence is available if it is wanted.

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